

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 1, 2002 (BOS Mtg. 7/16/02)

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: James O. McReynolds, County Administrator

SUBJECT: Approval of Arts Funding

Background

In 1989, the Board of Supervisors determined that visual and performing arts played an important role in the quality of life for York County citizens. In addition, looking into the future, the Board determined that the arts had the potential to be closely related to tourism and economic development activities. The Board further recognized that citizen involvement and input is essential to appropriately identify and recommend arts and arts groups to be considered for support by such resources as might be designated by the Board of Supervisors for this purpose. To accomplish this, the Board established the York County Arts Commission (R89-78) with five appointees.

The charter reads:

“The York County Arts Commission shall serve as an advisory body to the York County Board of Supervisors for the cultural arts. Cultural arts are herein defined as dance, literary arts, media arts, music, theater, museums, visual and related arts.”

The functions are as follows:

- ? The Commission shall adhere to the operational procedures of the York County Arts Commission Project/Challenge Grant in administering the program, and shall not deviate without the prior approval of the Board of Supervisors.
- ? The Commission shall encourage eligible individuals or organizations to apply for grants, and it shall devise efficient and fair ways to handle all applications.
- ? The Commission shall establish appropriate formal and specific guidelines for its own use in administering the grant program. These guidelines will be made available to any individual or organization requesting them.
- ? The Commission will review grant requests from individuals and organizations and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors concerning the distribution of budget appropriations for cultural arts.
- ? The Commission shall monitor each grant recipient to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the grant. To that end, the Commission shall require, as a condition to receiving a grant, each grant recipient to make a formal report

regarding the use of funds appropriated under this grant program, and provide any other information requested by the Commission relating to the expenditures of grant funds.

A copy of the above-referenced grant guidelines is included for the Board's review.

Recommendations

The Board of Supervisors has appropriated \$53,500 for FY2003 for support of the arts. In addition, the County has been notified that our annual application for a Local Government Challenge Grant has been approved by the Virginia Commission for the Arts for \$5,000 for FY2003.

The York County Arts Commission has completed its review of FY2003 funding requests from local arts organizations. Although the Commission makes grant recommendations, the decisions rewarding awards are exclusively those of the Board of Supervisors. During June, staff provided the Board with "*Showcase of the Arts*", a book describing each arts organization, along with summaries of each grant proposal and the Commission's recommendations.

The attached chart specifies recommended funding amounts for each organization and provides a brief explanation for funding. As noted on this chart, a total of 33 arts organizations applied for funding. The Arts Commission is recommending that all of these organizations receive funding in FY2003. The attached Resolution ratifies the distribution of County and State funds recommended by the York County Arts Commission.

It is recommended that Proposed Resolution R02-88 to approve FY2003 County and State funding to local arts organizations be adopted.

Smith/4111

Attachments

- ? York County Arts Commission Project/Challenge Grant Program
- ? FY2003 Grant Funding Recommendations
- ? Proposed Resolution R02-88